

Present: Chair Sue Wingate, Ron Sundquist, Joan Magrauth, Bill Marcussen Selectmen's Office: Geoff Blackett

Absent: Karen Nemeth, Michael Haegar, Kim Reed

Minutes from previous meeting: A motion to approve minutes as corrected made by Ron Sundquist and seconded by Joan Magrauth was approved. Some of the identification tags that Karen Nemeth got for the plants have been put out.

Correspondence: See email from Dave Jeffers re food waste grant application attached below

Old Business

1. Community Garden

- a. Composting Demo: Ron Sundquist gave a tour of the composting demo area at the rear of the CG. To date there is a 3-bay pallet 'hot' composting area and one of 2-3 'cold' composting wire bins. Not sure whether we will get to the cinderblock area this year. Ron explained the various components of the compost he is working with, including the weekly shredded paper from the town offices, CG green matter collected in the provided barrels, chicken manure, corn stalks, grass clippings, etc. He also described the difference between 'hot' and 'cold' composting. Ron will be writing up information on the composting demo to be posted on the TAC website as well as posted on site – will need to look into laminating this information and posting. Discussed the possibility of having a composting seminar for the town in the future.
- b. Pollinator Garden: Ron Sundquist, Michael Haeger, and Sue Wingate put wood chips (contributed by Steve Wingate) down on the path in the garden. Bill for additional plants purchased this year has already been paid. Joan will provide the receipt to Diane F??? Will decide in the Autumn whether we need additional plants either from donations or purchased. Need to get information on the purpose of the garden out to the public. Eventually a sign (matching the CG sign) for the garden, but for now we will have a write-up on the TAC web page that we can also post on the CG bulletin board.
- c. Sign: Karen Nemeth sent information that the sign is in the works (designed to match the appearance of the town offices) and hopefully will be ready in August. TAC will need to get posts and install the sign when ready.
- d. Community Garden News Letter: This needs to get done this month. Sue Wingate will work on in conjunction w/Karen Nemeth. Newsletter will be sent to people w/CG plots as well as posted to the TAC website.
- e. Bird Houses: Ron Sundquist reported that the Boy Scouts have contacted him re constructing bluebird houses. He will let them know the particulars for the houses and how many we would need. Plan to erect them next spring. We will need to put them in place according to specifications. Russ Barenklau had volunteered to make the bird houses. Sue Wingate will contact him and ask if he would make a purple Martin house for the town office area.
- f. Companion Gardeners – Karen Nemeth is still interested in developing this program, but asked that we defer till 2019
- g. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Karen for all the work she has done to make the Community garden successful!!!!

2. **Tuftonboro Times Articles:** Joan Magrauth was commended for her articles in the Tuftonboro Times on agriculture-related entities in town. The past article was on the Cheney Farm and is planning an article on the history of the Stockman family in town and the 80th anniversary of Spiderweb Gardens for the next issue of the Times.
3. **Tuftonboro Local Producers List:** Joan Magrauth is continuing to maintain and update the Local Producers List which is on the TAC website. It lists people and businesses in town that are involved in agriculture either commercially in some way or have an interest in a specific agricultural aspect that would be willing to share knowledge.
4. **TAC website:** Sue Wingate is working w/Karen Koch to update the TAC webpage. The following tabs will be on the page and will need to have introductory information
 - TAC Overview - Information about the purpose and workings of TAC – Sue Wingate
 - Barn Conservation– information about the barn preservation easement – Sue Wingate
 - Community Garden – All information re the CG will be posted here – how to sign up; ‘rules’; CG newsletter – Karen Nemeth and Sue Wingate
 - Composting –Relevant information re composting, especially the composting demo at the CG – would be good to have a seminar on this in the future - Ron Sundquist
 - Events – Place to post any events planned by the TAC, i.e. seminars; related events that we know about with relevance/interest to the community
 - Forestry Practices – Information re responsible forest management practices; explain why forestry is under the purview of the Ag Comm; information about BMPs, Intent to Harvest, etc.; count extension agent Wendy Scribner has offered to put on a seminar on forest management, possibly in late winter, early spring – Sue Wingate
 - Library – Work with the Tuftonboro Free Library (TFL) to possibly provide a list of books available re agriculture-related subjects; post links to articles – need someone to coordinate
 - Local Producers List - lists people and businesses in town that are involved in agriculture either commercially in some way or have an interest in a specific agricultural aspect that would be willing to share knowledge – Joan Magrauth
 - Pictures – Place to post any pictures of interest
 - Pollinator Garden – Explanation of the purpose of the pollinator garden and the importance of pollinators in the ecosystem; what individuals could do to maintain a pollinator-friendly ecosystem on their property – ask Mike Haegar to work on this
5. **Library in Town Office** – Decided to scrap this idea as infeasible and concentrate on promoting use of books at the TFL and links on our website. Members asked to bring books they wish to donate to the next meeting, and we will set up a meeting w/the TFL folks as how to move forward.
6. **Alternate Member needed:** Geoff Blackett has kindly agreed to serve as an alternate on the TAC. Sue Wingate will start the process.
7. **Old Home Days:** Agreed at the last meeting that it would be nice if we could have a presence at the Auto Show and Town Picnic where the Tuftonboro Association and others will be having a tent. To do this we would need to have a hand out explaining what the TAC is all about. Having a poster re the composting demo would be nice also. However, not sure that there is time to get this organized for this year.
8. **LRPC Grant:** Were informed by Dave Jeffers (see corresponding email) that there will be no grant money coming. Discussed ways that we could move forward with either the food waste composting at Tuftonboro Central School or Camp Belknap. Would like to explore further partnering with Camp Belknap to develop their idea of a food waste composting project. Bill Marcaussen suggested we develop the project and propose what would be our part of the funding as a budget item for next

year. Will need to get on this as soon as possible. Sue Wingate will contact individuals to see what we can do to move this forward.

9. **Additional reports from members:** Joan Magrauth will provide info on Daffodil Days to members prior to the next meeting so that we can discuss then.

New Business

1. **Community Garden** – We want to continue current efforts but move beyond the walls as a showcase of agriculture for the people.

- Pantry Partners – Karen Nemeth has suggested this as a way of sharing extra garden produce to the benefit of the Food Pantry – will discuss at the next meeting
- Differently-Abled Garden Plots - We have discussed this in the past and agree it is something to pursue but not at this time.

2. **Additional Items**

- Change of meeting for the future – Our next meeting dates are scheduled for 10/2/18 and 12/4. As these start to conflict w/the holidays, a motion was made (Ron Sundquist) and seconded (Joan Magrauth) to reschedule the next two meetings of 2018 to **9/4 and 11/6**. Continuing on this schedule would enable us to have meetings in 2019 in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Motion was approved.

Next Meeting: 9/4/2018, Selectmen's' Office, 4:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 5:38 pm

David Jeffers djeffers@lakesrpc.org

EPA EE grant

Dear Food Waste and Composting Stakeholders,

I do hope that your summer is a good one and that if you have a garden, it is growing well!

We did receive a decision letter from EPA regarding the Environmental Education proposal for a Food Waste & Compost project. Unfortunately, they declined to fund our proposal this year. Their letter noted that applications were such that they were only able to fund under 10% of the applications received. I think that we had a very good concept and very much appreciate your assistance in the development of the proposal and letters of commitment.

We do recognize that Food Waste & Composting are important Solid Waste issues, both now and for the future. As long as funding will permit, LRPC will remain involved with this topic, assisting individuals, organizations, and communities work on ways to better communicate the need for addressing this issue in an economically and environmentally responsible manner as well as actual implementation of appropriate best practices.

Again, we are disappointed that EPA was unable to fund your individual projects along with the overall project linking them all together. We do hope that you will stay in touch with us and that as funding and partnership opportunities arise, we will be able to work together on this or a similar project.

All the best.

Sincerely,

Dave

